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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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10/671,659

09/29/2003

Chun Te Yu

EL-CFP00414

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7590

08/17/2006

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98 DISCOVERY  
IRVINE, CA 92618-3105

EXAMINER

GALL, LLOYD A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3676

DATE MAILED: 08/17/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/671,659

Applicant(s)

YU, CHUN TE

Examiner

Lloyd A. Gall

Art Unit

3676

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 June 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 13, 15, 16 and 21-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 13, 15, 16 and 21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 22 and 23 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 30 June 2006 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

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### DETAILED ACTION

Claim 23 is objected to because of the following informalities: In claim 23, line 3, --a-- should be inserted after "has". In claim 23, line 5, "short" should read --shorter--.

Appropriate correction is required.

Applicant should note that the drawing "REPLACEMENT SHEETS" filed on June 30, 2006 are not approved, since they do not comply with 37 CFR 1.121, since such Replacement Sheets are required to have their changes explained in detail.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claim 21 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Loughlin (324).

Loughlin (324) teaches, and in relying upon its provisional application 60/470,999, as seen in figs. 5a and 5b, a padlock with a combination lock 14 controlling movement of the longer shackle leg in its channel, and a second channel receiving the block 32 having a receptacle 34 to control unlocking movement of the shorter leg of the shackle, the block having an engaging portion which includes the receptacle 34 and its laterally extending gap, and a mounting portion which is coupled to the key lock, wherein as disclosed in paragraph 0137 on page 11, the block 32 may be key actuated from the

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bottom of the padlock body, and includes a connection between the block 32 and the first locking means key plug. The longer arm of the shackle is controlled by a second combination locking means 14.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Loughlin (324) in view of Huang (076).

Loughlin (324) teaches, and in relying upon its provisional application 60/470,999, as seen in figs. 5a and 5b, a padlock with a combination lock 14 controlling movement of the longer shackle leg in its channel, and a second channel receiving the block 32 having a receptacle 34 to control unlocking movement of the shorter leg of the shackle, the block having an engaging portion which includes the receptacle 34 and its laterally extending gap, and a mounting portion which is coupled to the key lock, wherein as disclosed in paragraph 0137 on page 11, the block 32 may be key actuated from the bottom of the padlock body, and includes a connection between the block 32 and the first locking means key plug. The longer arm of the shackle is controlled by a second combination locking means 14. Huang teaches a well known connection as seen in fig. 5 including a driving rod 30, 33 to engage a mounting portion of the structure which it rotates when in use. It would have been obvious to provide a driving rod connection between the key plug and block 32 of Loughlin, in view of the teaching of Huang, the

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motivation being to ensure simultaneous rotation of the block 32 with rotation of the key plug.

Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Loughlin (324) in view of Huang as applied to claim 13 above, and further in view of Meckbach (678).

As seen in figs. 5 and 6, Meckbach teaches that it is well known to provide at least two sockets 132, 133 in a mounting portion 131 to receive the plates 28 extending from a key plug. It would have been obvious to modify the connection of Loughlin as modified by Huang to include two plates extending from the key plug of Loughlin to engage two sockets in the mounting portion of the block 32 of Loughlin, in view of the teaching of Meckbach, the motivation being to ensure simultaneous rotation of the block 32 with the key plug of Loughlin.

Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Loughlin (324) in view of Lai (672) and Huang (076).

Loughlin (324) teaches, and in relying upon its provisional application 60/470,999, as seen in figs. 5a and 5b, a padlock with a combination lock 14 controlling movement of the longer shackle leg in its channel, and a second channel receiving the block 32 having a receptacle 34 to control unlocking movement of the shorter leg of the shackle, the block having an engaging portion which includes the receptacle 34 and its laterally extending gap, and a mounting portion which is coupled to the key lock, wherein as disclosed in paragraph 0137 on page 11, the block 32 may be key actuated from the bottom of the padlock body, and includes a connection between the block 32 and the

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first locking means key plug. The longer arm of the shackle is controlled by a second combination locking means 14. Huang teaches a well known connection as seen in fig. 5 including a driving rod 30, 33 to engage a mounting portion of the structure which it rotates when in use. Lai teaches a combination lock of a padlock including a stop 35 in the channel 68 cooperable with a smaller diameter opening at 79, and connected with a stem 34. It would have been obvious to modify the combination lock of Loughlin to include a smaller diameter opening of the combination lock channel cooperable with a stem and stop of the shackle, in view of the teaching of Lai, the motivation being to prevent the removal of the shackle, and the potential loss of the shackle. It would have been obvious to provide a driving rod connection between the key plug and block 32 of Loughlin, in view of the teaching of Huang, the motivation being to ensure simultaneous rotation of the block 32 with rotation of the key plug.

Claims 22 and 23 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant's arguments filed June 30, 2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. In response to applicant's remarks in the last paragraph of page 13, the filing date of the provisional application 60/470,999 is being relied upon in the above prior art rejections. In response to the remarks on page 14, all of the claimed features are taught by above prior art references, as set forth in the rejections of the claims.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

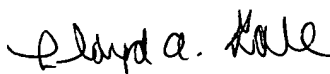
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lloyd A. Gall whose telephone number is 571-272-7056. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Glessner can be reached on 571-272-6843. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

LG LG  
August 15, 2006

  
Lloyd A. Galli  
Primary Examiner